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**REMARKS
BY
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO BANGLADESH DAN MOZENA
JHENAIIDHA CADET COLLEGE
OPEN SESSION WITH CADETS
JHENAIIDAH
MAY 13, 2014**

Jhenaidha Cadet College Principal Lt. Col. Benazir Ahmed

Jhenaidha Deputy Commissioner Md. Shafiqul Islam

Members of the Faculty

... and most especially ... you ... you, the good students of Jhenaidha Cadet College

Asalaamu alaikum and good morning

Sonar Bangla ...

... rich words, beautiful words ...

... words of Tagore ... words you proudly sing out every time you sing the national anthem ...

... Sonar Bangla ...

... a wondrous vision, a wondrous image ...

... Sonar Bangla ... Sonar Bangla is a Bangladesh where everyone has the means to provide his or her family secure housing, ample, nutritious food, good healthcare, quality education.

Sonar Bangla is a new reality in the making, the new Bangladesh.

As I crisscross Bangladesh from Tetulia to Teknaf, from Sylhet to Satkhira, from Jhalokati to Jhenaidha ...

... everywhere I go in this fabulous country ...

... everywhere I go ...

... I see how rich Bangladesh is ...

... the most fertile soil, the ample water, the climate that allows three growing seasons, the great gas reserves, the huge coal deposits, the massive potential for solar power ...

... and, most especially, the people... the people ... the wonderful people of Bangladesh ... the most energetic, dynamic, creative, entrepreneurial, generous, resilient people whom I know ... the people ... the people are Bangladesh's greatest asset of all ... the people.

The people, the amazing Bangladeshi people, who built the nation's apparel industry into the world's second largest ...

... the people who are making Bangladesh food self-sufficient – can you imagine that the world's most densely populated country is on its way to feeding itself? ...

... the people who are building world competitive industries in pharmaceuticals, shoes and finished leather goods, frozen shrimp, IT, small freighters, flowers for the Middle East, bone china, jute and silk products ...

... the people who have made Bangladesh a global model for reducing the deaths of pregnant women and children ... the people who have enabled Bangladeshi parents to have the family size they want.

Your parents and grandparents have done their part to build Sonar Bangla ...

... and now your turn is coming.

Left for you is an education revolution ... so all Bangladeshi children benefit from highest quality education, so they can make the greatest contributions to building Sonar Bangla ...

Left for you is building on Bangladesh's good fortune of being at the great nexus of trade between Central and South Asia and China, Singapore and beyond. Bangladesh will be a huge contributor to the vast flows of electrical power, goods and services across the region and beyond.

Left for you is creating Asia's next economic tiger ... Bangladesh ... the Royal Bengal Tiger.

Your is a giant task ... but you are equipping yourself now to confront this task by seizing this opportunity to get a powerful education here at Jhenaidah Cadet College, one of Bangladesh's best schools.

When you finish here, I hope you will continue your studies ... consider studying in America ... home to some of the best education institutions available ... go to the US Embassy Dhaka website and our Facebook to learn about scholarships and visas.

When you finish your education, you will be a master craftsman, a great builder, a builder of the nation, a builder of Sonar Bangla ... you ... you ... you are the ones who will build the Sonar Bangla of Tagore's vision, of our shared vision.

Great things don't just happen, they are made to happen ... you... you are the ones who will make these great things happen; you are the ones who will build Sonar Bangla.

Thank you.

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**As prepared for delivery*